

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An image capture ~~apparatus~~ device comprising:
 - an image capture unit adapted to capture an image;
 - an information generation unit adapted to generate specific information relating to image data of the captured image data;
 - a recording unit adapted to record the image data obtained from the captured image and the specific information on a recording medium;
 - a reproducing unit adapted to reproduce the image data and the specific information from the recording medium; and
 - an embedding unit adapted to embed the specific information reproduced from the recording medium into the image data reproduced from the recording medium using a digital watermarking technique; and a selecting unit adapted to select a first process or a second process in accordance with user's instruction,
 - wherein, when [[the]] a first process is selected by a user, the embedding unit embeds the specific information into the image data, and
 - when [[the]] a second process is selected by the user, the embedding unit avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

2. (Currently Amended) An ~~apparatus~~ image capture device according to claim 1, further comprising a decompressing unit adapted to decompress the image data reproduced from the recording medium,

wherein the embedding unit is adapted to embed the specific information into the ~~decompressed~~ image data decompressed by the decompressing unit.

3. to 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for use in an image capture apparatus device comprising the steps of:

a step of capturing an image;

an information generation step of generating specific information relating to image data of the captured image data;

a step of recording the image data obtained from the captured image and the specific information on a recording medium;

a step of reproducing the image data and the specific information from the recording medium;

an embedding step of embedding the specific information reproduced from the recording medium into the image data reproduced for the recording medium using a digital watermarking technique; and ~~selecting a first process or a second process in accordance with user's instruction,~~

wherein, when [[the]] a first process is selected by a user, the embedding step embeds the specific information into the image data, and

when [[the]] a second process is selected by the user, the embedding step avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising a decompressing step of decompressing the image data reproduced from the recording medium,

wherein the embedding step ~~is a step of embedding~~ embeds the specific information into the ~~decompressed~~ image data decompressed in the decompressing step.

7. to 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for use in an image capture apparatus device, the program is capable of performing the steps of:

a step of capturing an image;

an information generation step of generating specific information relating to image data of the captured image data;

a step of recording the image data obtained from the captured image and the specific information on a recording medium;

a step of reproducing the image data and the specific information from the recording medium;

an embedding step of embedding the specific information reproduced from the recording medium into the image data reproduced from the recording medium using a digital watermarking technique; and

selecting a first process or a second process in accordance with user's instruction;

wherein, when [[the]] a first process is selected by a user, the embedding step embeds the specific information into the image data, and

when [[the]] a second process is selected by the user, the embedding step avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage medium according to claim 9, the program is capable of performing a decompressing step of decompressing the image data reproduced from the recording medium,

wherein the embedding step ~~is a step of embedding~~ embeds the specific information into the ~~decompressed~~ image data decompressed in the decompressing step.

11. to 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus image capture device according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus information generation unit generates the specific information when the image is captured.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising a step of generating wherein the information generation step generates the specific information when the image is captured.

15. (Currently Amended) A storage medium according to claim 9, the program further comprises a step of generating wherein the information generation step generates the specific information when the image is captured.

16. (Currently Amended) An ~~apparatus~~ image capture device according to claim 1, further comprising an outputting unit adapted to output the image data to [[a]] an external destination external to the image capture apparatus,
wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting unit outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and
wherein, when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting unit outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising [[a]] an outputting step of outputting the image data to [[a]] an external destination external to the image capture apparatus,
wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting step outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and
wherein, when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting step outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

18. (Currently Amended) A storage medium according to claim 9, the program further comprises a is capable of performing an outputting step of outputting the image data to [[a]] an external destination external to the image capture apparatus,

wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting step outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and wherein, when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting step outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

19. (New) An image capture device comprising:
an image capture unit adapted to capture an image;
an information generation unit adapted to generate specific information relating to image data of the captured image; and
an embedding unit adapted to embed the specific information generated in the image capture device into the image data using a digital watermarking technique,
wherein, when a first process is selected by a user, the embedding unit embeds the specific information into the image data, and
when a second process is selected by the user, the embedding unit avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

20. (New) An image capture device according to claim 19, wherein the information generation unit generates the specific information when the image is captured.

21. (New) An image capture device according to claim 19, further comprising an outputting unit adapted to output the image data to an external destination, wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting unit outputs the image data with the specific information embedded to the external destination,

and

when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting unit outputs the image data without the specific information embedded to the external destination.